(PE)

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The description provided by this claim clearly discloses a frame surrounding the sanitary area formed by the surface of the sanitary material. The mechanism described includes both those embodiments which include a bottom or floor and those embodiments which do not include a bottom or floor but a surrounding frame, as with a window frame.

Because the limitation that the sanitary material contact the floor is no longer present in the revised claims and because such a limitation is taught by this application in its original form the objection to the disclosure is either obviated or invalid. In either case the objection to the disclosure is moot in light of the changes to the claims as amended by the enclosed amended claim section.

The rejection of claims 1,2 and 6-11 under 35 USC 112 is obviated by entry of the enclosed amended claims section. For reasons stated above, applicant does not agree that the limitation that the sanitary material "makes direct contact with the floor", would be new matter. Nonetheless, the amended claims section deletes all references to this limitation and therefore obviates the rejection of claims 1,2 and 6-11 under 35 USC 112.

The Rejection of Claims 1,2 and 6-10 "under 35 USC § 103 as being unpatentable over Oats '513 (U.S, Patent No. 4,926,513) in view of Heppner (U.S. 4,212,217) in further view of Van Wagner (U.S. Patent No. 1,891629) ..." is obviated by entry of the enclosed amended claim section. The amendments add the limitations: 1) that the sanitary material be guided by at least one guide slot (see reference number 8 of Figures 1 through 6), and 2) that the sanitary area intersect all four sides of the frame. These limitations are not disclosed by the Oats '513 reference nor in any of the cited references. Therefore entry of the enclosed amended claim section obviates the rejection of claims 1,2 and 6-10 "under 35 USC § 103 as being unpatentable over Oats '513 (U.S, Patent No. 4,926,513) in view of Heppner (U.S. 4,212,217) in further view of Van Wagner (U.S. Patent No. 1,891629) ...".

Sincerely,

Roger L. Belfay, Esta Registered Patent Attorney

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Enclosures:

1. Amended claim set